

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Advisory Action mailed on December 15, 2006 indicated that the proposed amendment, the response dated October 23, 2006 will be entered.

Claims 15 through 27 are under examination in this application.

Claims 1 through 14 have been canceled in the response dated October 23, 2006.

Claim 15 was amended and rewritten in independent form in the response dated October 23, 2006.

Claim 15 is also amended in the current response.

No new subject matter was added to the claims. Support for amended claim 15 can be found in general throughout the specification and in particular, for example, at paragraph [0063]. Paragraph number notations refer to Applicant's published patent application US 2004/0151712 A1.

Therefore, claims 15 through 27 are currently pending.

The amendment of and cancellation of the claims is to help more distinctly claim the invention and is not an acquiescence to any pending rejection. Applicant reserves the right to present the original claims in this or a continuation application. No prejudice shall be inferred by the amendments.

**Amendment to the Specification**

The amendment to paragraph [0001] was made in the response dated October 23, 2006 to correct an inadvertent clerical error when referring to the related U.S. application data. Application No. 10/253,316, filed on Sep. 24, 2002, now Pat. No. 6,699,905 was incorrectly referred to as a *divisional* of application No. 09/972,419, filed on Oct. 5, 2001, now Pat. No. 6,458,839 when it is a *continuation*.

An updated application data sheet was enclosed with the response dated October 23, 2006. Applicant(s) respectfully request an updated filing receipt with the above-noted correction.

**Rejection of Claims 1 through 26 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph**

Claims 1 through 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Claims 1 through 14 have been cancelled in the response dated October 23, 2006. Claim 15 was also amended in the response to include the limitations set forth in claims 1 and 14 without the term "preventing" as was written in claim 1, therefore obviating this rejection.

Claim 15 is currently amended.

Applicant notes that the Examiner did not specifically mention claim 27. However, the amendment to claim 15 from which claim 27 depends should obviate any rejection of claim 27.

Claim 15 has been amended to specifically recite treatment of columnar epithelial inflammation. Reference to "prevention" has been omitted, thereby particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter the applicant regards as the invention.

Furthermore, claim 15 has been amended to remove reference to "disease or condition associated with", so that the claim positively recites treatment of columnar epithelial inflammation. Inflammation of columnar epithelium can be determined by the skilled artisan.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**Rejection of Claims 1 through 14 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

Claims 1 through 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by WO 90/13292.

Claims 1 through 14 have been cancelled in the response dated October 23, 2006, obviating this rejection. No inference shall be drawn by the cancellation of claims 1-14.

Cancellation of these claims is being done solely to expedite prosecution and allowance of the remaining claims.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application and a favorable response are respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues, please contact the undersigned at 612-340-8819.

No additional claim fees should be generated by this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 04-1420.

Respectfully submitted,

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